

Series Title: **“Whose Kingdom Are You Building?”**
(Coming to terms with **Our** role as **His** stewards)

Sermon Title: **“Stewardship In Troubled Times”**
(Part 3)

Sermon Text: **II Corinthians 8:1-5**

Introduction/Review:

I. Biblical Giving Is More A Matter Of The Heart Than A Matter Of Our Circumstances
(8:1-2)

II. Biblical Giving Becomes A Real Joy When It Comes Out Of Real Sacrifice (8:3a)

III. Biblical Giving Is The Result Of Inward _____, Not Outward
_____ (8:3b-4)

• What is the meaning of the phrase “*they gave of their own accord?*”

• **Why was Paul so reluctant to accept the Macedonian’s gift?**

“They begged us to take the money so that they could share in the joy of helping the Christians in Jerusalem.” (The Living Bible)

• ***The thrust of the Greek is that they begged Paul _____.***

• ***Koinonia***, is a word that is commonly translated “*fellowship*” in the N.T., and it means “*that which we hold in _____ or have a _____ in.*”

• **The Macedonians wanted to be _____ because they had experienced _____!**

• II Corinthians 9:7

• One of the surest marks that a heart has truly been touched by the grace of God is that such a person counts giving to be a _____!

• ***Giving is the natural reflex of the _____ and _____ soul!***

• Exodus 36:5-7

- The true value of Christian giving is not determined by the _____ of the _____ but the _____ of the _____!

IV. Biblical Giving Recognizes That The Giving Of _____ To God Precedes The Giving Of Our _____ To God (8:5)

- All true giving begins with the giving of _____!

“It’s easy to surrender the _____ when you have already given the _____!”

- The word *“first,”* doesn’t indicate priority of _____, but priority of _____!

- *It is so much easier to give of our _____ rather than _____.*

“A person will always have difficulty accepting the biblical principle of giving until he has first given himself completely to God!”

- The phrase, *“and not as we had expected,”* means far beyond our _____.

- God doesn’t want the _____ without the _____; He doesn’t desire man’s _____ apart from man’s _____!

Conclusion:

3 facts and 3 questions

- *Giving is an outward _____ of an inward _____!*
- *Giving is not so much determined by _____ we have but by _____ we are!*
- *Giving is intended to be a _____, not a _____!*

1. **Do You _____ God?** (Matthew 22:37)

2. **Are You _____ God?** (Malachi 3:8-10)

3. **Do You Really _____ God?** (Philippians 4:6-7, 19)